

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

333 W. COLFAX AVENUE, SUITE 400
DENVER, COLORADO 80204

AUG 5 1986

SECRETARY OF LABOR, : CIVIL PENALTY PROCEEDING
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH :
ADMINISTRATION (MSHA), : Docket No. CENT 85-36-M
Petitioner : A.C. No. 39-00055-05539
 :
v. : Homestake Mine
 :
HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY, :
Respondent :

DECISION APPROVING SETTLEMENT

Before: Judge Lasher

The parties have reached a settlement of the four violations involved in the total sum of \$8,290.00. MSHA's initial assessment therefor totaled \$11,040.00.

The terms of the settlement are as follows:

<u>Citation</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Settlement</u>
2097234	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00 (fatality)
2097564	1,000.00	250.00
2097965	20.00	20.00
2097966	20.00	20.00

This settlement is approved for the following reasons:

With respect to Citation No. 2097234, it appears that the workman who had fallen to his death would have not have fallen had he used a safety belt. While his foreman was aware he was not utilizing the safety belt, nevertheless it appears he had been issued a safety belt by Respondent, and instructed as to the need and use of such. In view thereof, the 20% **reduction** from the statutory maximum penalty (\$10,000) **appears** justified and this compromise is approved. For the same reasons the reduced penalty for Citation No. 2097564 (failure to install a handrail) is also **approved**.

I take notice from prior matters involving this Respondent that, in terms of size, Respondent is a large gold mine operator. It also appears from the settlement motion that Respondent abated the violative conditions and demonstrated "a good faith desire to comply with the health and safety standards in the **future**."

Citation Nos. 2097965 and 2097966 were not the subject of reduced penalties.